

INSIDE  
THIS ISSUE:

Letter by Rudy Krause	2
New Mem- bers Wel- come	3
Employee Housing	4
Photo of the month	6
Advertising Rates	7
CEB Hearing Results	8
Issues and Answers	8
Permit Fees	9
Membership Application	9
Contact Us	10



VOLUME 1 ISSUE 7

SEPTEMBER, 2007

## Next General Meeting

Our General meeting will be October 16, 2007 at 12:00 pm, At the Sombrero Country Club. Lunch will be available. We have two guest speakers scheduled for this meeting. Kelly Zufelt an Agent of Vandroff Insurance Agency in Jacksonville discussing the ongoing issue of USL&H (Longshoreman's insurance). Also speaking will be Paul Kruger representing the Army Corps of Engineers discussing some of the unique issues we face here in the Keys.

We need your input!! Let us know who you would like to have as a guest speaker at our next general meeting in January. You may contact us by phone at 743-9409, we value your opinion.

The FKCA Board of Directors is preparing for the annual election of its Officers and Directors. We will try to have the results posted in next month's newsletter.

## Army Corps of Engineers Meeting

The FKCA President, Rudy Krause and Vice President, Murray Shatt attended the August 7<sup>th</sup> Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) meeting in Ft Lauderdale.

They had the pleasure of meeting Chief David Hobbie and all the staff that was present at the meeting. They made some great contacts which I'm sure will help in opening the lines of communication.

As some of you may know the Keys face more stringent rules, higher fees and longer waiting periods when obtaining permits through the ACOE then anywhere else on the coast. To make matters more difficult, the Marathon ACOE office was closed, due to the high cost

of living and there are no intentions of re-opening an office in the area.

Rudy and Murray personally met ACOE representative Paul Kruger, who has agreed to be a Guest speaker at our October Meeting. Hopefully he will be able to help us more clearly understand the special circumstances we have and how to navigate through the process.

If you would like more information on the ACOE or their jurisdiction you can visit their website at [www.saj.usace.army.mil](http://www.saj.usace.army.mil) There is a tremendous amount of information regarding the regulatory division that can be accessed from this site.

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## Letter to the Editor by Rudy Krause

FKCA President Rudy Krause sent the following letter to the editor of our local newspapers.

I have been a resident of the Keys since the late 60's and started my construction business in the late 80's. During my years in business, I have been working with Monroe County Building & Planning Departments on a regular basis.

In all these years I have never seen the process run as efficiently and smoothly as it does today. In the past, I have had projects buried in the Planning Department for years, now you can expect a response in a reasonable amount of time. The staff in Marathon is knowledgeable, professional and a pleasure to work with.

Another great service that is now in place is online access to many departments, including access to permits and inspections. This saves time for my staff, as well as the county staff allowing us all to work together more effectively.

Recently I have heard a lot of negative publicity regarding the County and some of its staff members. In light of that, I would like to take a moment to express a positive opinion and **thank** the Monroe County Building & Planning Department Staff, the Directors and the County Administrator for their professionalism, hard work and dedication to the residents of this County.

Sincerely  
Rudy Krause



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# New Members Welcome



We welcome all new members into our organization by acknowledging them in our newsletter with a brief description of what services and products they offer. This month we welcome Vandroff Insurance Agency.

Vandroff Insurance Agency is a Florida based Independent Insurance Agency and is one of the oldest family-owned agencies in Jacksonville. For over 100 years, thousands of businesses and individuals have enjoyed the peace of mind that comes with trusting Vandroff for all of their coverage needs.

Because we're independent and represent many select insurance companies, we can offer our customers better value. Our professional staff is licensed and trained in all of the specific types of coverage that a business owner and/or individual would require including the very specialized Marine exposures.

Contact information for Vandroff Insurance: Kelly Zufelt, agent  
 E-mail: [Kelly@vandroff-insurance.com](mailto:Kelly@vandroff-insurance.com)  
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## Business Survival and Employee Housing

What are businesses in Monroe County going to do to survive the exodus of their employees other than go out of business as so many have done recently? Rome is burning and everyone is watching and waiting for someone else to put out the fire. There is plenty of blame to go around, politicians, environmentalists, developers, etc. The truth is that this problem has developed over several years and for a multitude of reasons. The question is what are businesses going to do about it? We are going to have to provide housing for at least half of our employees. This is going to require both new construction and renovation of existing structures. This will require a heavy burden of debt and personnel resources to solve a problem that most businesses have not had to deal with in the past.

We now have different people in the management positions of Monroe County government and they are much more helpful than some of their predecessors. The new director of growth management, Andrew Trivette, spoke at our last Florida Keys Contractors Association meeting and is currently working on a simple affidavit to use for employee housing. If you ever looked into what it takes paperwork-wise to put an employee into your own provided housing you wouldn't bother building it in the first

place. He recognizes this and is doing something about correcting the problem. It is refreshing to know that government is going to work with its customers to help solve this problem. If an employer is willing to go through the trouble and expense of building employee housing he is going to need the cooperation of the government planning and permitting agencies.

There are several people behind the scenes working to solve the employee housing situation. There are a great number of ideas for the officials to choose from and your FKCA will be bringing you up to date information as soon as any proposals are going to be implemented. One of our main objectives is to get our members accurate information as to what is going to happen in our industry so that they can plan their businesses accordingly. This issue affects us all to one degree or another and we will be working with the appropriate officials to help in any way that we can.

We will be giving you an update as to the progress of the affidavit and any other developments on the employee housing issue in our next monthly newsletter.

## FKCA Golf Tournament

Due to scheduling conflicts, the FKCA Golf Tournament that was scheduled for October 16, 2007 has been rescheduled to Saturday, March 1, 2008 at the Sombrero Country Club in Marathon.

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## Issues and Answers

One of the biggest reasons to be a member of the FKCA is to keep informed of any issues that will affect our industry. If your business is having a problem with any governmental agency or the personnel of the agency then your FKCA will look into the issue and see what can be done to resolve it. You can remain anonymous if you feel that you may be subject to retribution.

We will also file code enforcement complaints for you if you know of unlicensed activity and do not want to personally report it. All you have to do is call

305-743-9409 or go to our website

[www.floridakeyscontractorsassoc.com](http://www.floridakeyscontractorsassoc.com) and go to the contact us section. Any of the FKCA officers or directors will be glad to help you and get the issue resolved.

Please feel free to call or e-mail us regarding any issue that you may come across as you may be the first one to be experiencing it. The more eyes and ears that we have out there the better off we will all be. We want to be printing the information that is important to you.

## Contractors Examining Board Hearing July 12, 2007

The Contractors Examining Board is the construction related disciplinary board that handles code enforcement charges brought against contractors and individuals in Monroe County. The actions that the board took at their July 12 meeting are as follows:

Emilio Rodriguez CE07030258, found Not in Violation of MCC 6-66(8)(a) aiding and abetting.

Carlos Munoz, CE06110213, appeal denied, no further action to state recommended. Permit pulling privileges in Monroe County re-instated.

Roberto Gutierrez, Jr. CE06080383, MCC 6-25, unlicensed contractor, CE06080384 MCC 6-66(5) No Workman's Comp. Insurance, CE06080385, MCC 6-66(10)(a) Working without benefit of a permit. Appeal granted on all three charges.

Roger Dale Wonsetler, Pools by Roger, CE06120090 MCC 6-17(a), Work without benefit of a permit, appeal denied, no further action. Permit-pulling privileges in Monroe County re-instated.

Daniel P. Royer, CE06120141 MCC 6-25 Unlicensed Contractor, appeal denied, fined \$150.00

Jorge Gonzalez, Sunset Pools and Spas, Inc. CE06100157 MCC 6-66(8)(a) aiding & abetting unlicensed contractor, found Not in Violation.

Emiliano Samuell, Shannon Construction & Develop-

ment, Inc., CE07010100 MCC 6-66(8)(a) aiding & abetting an unlicensed contractor, found Not in Violation.

Filadelfo Perez Marquina, CE07010060, MCC 6-25, Unlicensed Contractor, appeal denied, fine of \$500.00 stands.

Leslie Allen Kinder, Les Kinder A/C, LLC, CE 06100262, MCC 6-66(10) Working without benefit of a permit, found In Violation, no further action recommended to State.

Alfredo Barquero, CE07030070, MCC 6-25, Unlicensed Contractor, appeal granted.

Sanchez Abiezer, CE07030072, MCC 6-66(8) Aiding & abetting an unlicensed contractor, found In Violation, no further action recommended to State.

John Robert Rose, C & C Marble Design, Inc., CE07030119, MCC 6-66(5) No general liability and/or workers comp insurance. Found Not in Violation, MCC 6-66(10)(a) Working without benefit of a permit, Found In Violation, Administrative fine of \$500.00 plus \$100.00 administrative fee. Certificate of competency license SP3328 suspended until he comes before the Board.

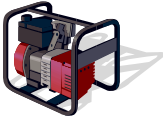
Carl Elof Lindback III, Lindback Construction Company, CE06120142, MCC 6-66(10)(a), working without the benefit of a permit, found In Violation, permit pulling privileges suspended, State of Florida to be notified with recommendation that further action be taken.

# Monroe County Permit Fees

One of our directors has recently reviewed a draft of the proposed increases to the Monroe County permit fees. There are some minor increases and some more significant ones.

This draft is on the agenda to be approved by the County Commission at the next meeting, September 19<sup>th</sup> at the Marathon Government Center.

All interested parties are urged to attend the meeting to voice their opinions.



## Florida Keys Contractor's Association, Inc.

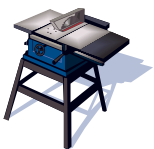
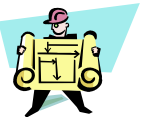
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### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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**e** ... ( ) Individual  
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**P** Business Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: \_\_\_\_\_  
**r**  
**i** Cell/Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
**n**  
**t** Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact/Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

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Membership Dues: Dues for Membership Application are ...\$300.00

Application is hereby made for membership in the Florida Keys Contractor's Association, Inc. If approved, applicant will abide by the Association's Charter and Bylaws, will support its objectives and pay all established dues and assessments.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant sponsored by: \_\_\_\_\_

For Association use only

The above application is hereby approved by the Board of Directors for membership.

Membership dues in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ received.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Florida Keys Contractor's Association, Inc.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name & Title



## **Florida Keys Contractor's Association**

For information, please contact the FKCA at:

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